

Appln No. 09/710,490  
Amdt date August 11, 2003  
Reply to Office action of March 12, 2003

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Previously canceled)
2. (Previously Amended) The negative active material slurry composition of claim 6 wherein the transition metal is selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Fe, Cr, Co, Cu and Mo, the alkaline earth metal is selected from the group consisting of Ca and Mg, and the semi-metal is selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, Si and Sn.
3. (Previously canceled)
4. (Previously amended) The negative active material slurry composition of claim 6 wherein the compound includes at least one boron compound.
5. (Previously canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) A negative active material slurry for a rechargeable lithium battery comprising a mixture of a carbonaceous negative active material and a compound in an organic solvent, the compound being selected from the group consisting of nitride compounds[,] and chloride compounds [~~and fluoride compounds~~], wherein the compound further comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of transition metals, alkaline metals, alkaline

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earth metals and semi-metals, wherein the amount of the compound is 0.05 to 30 wt %.

7. (Previously canceled)

8. (Previously amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the transition metal is selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Fe, Cr, Co, Cu and Mo, the alkaline metal is selected from the group consisting of Na and K, the alkaline earth metal is selected from the group consisting of Ca and Mg, and the semi-metal is selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, Si and Sn.

9. (Previously canceled)

10. (Previously amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the compound includes at least one boron compound.

11. (Previously canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a negative electrode for a rechargeable lithium battery comprising:

mixing a carbonaceous negative active material with a compound to form a mixture, the compound being selected from the group consisting of nitride compounds[,] and chloride compounds [~~and fluoride compounds~~], wherein the compound further comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of transition metals, alkaline metals, alkaline earth metals and semi-metals, wherein the amount of the compound is 0.05 to 30 wt %;

adding an organic solvent to the mixture;

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coating the resulting mixture on a current collector; and  
drying the coated current collector and pressing the dried current collector.